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July 24, 1991

91-RF-3981

Robert M. Nelson, Jr. Manager DOE, RFO

Attn: F. R. Lockhart

TERMINATION OF BENCH-SCALE TREATABILITY TESTING OF SOUTH WALNUT CREEK SURFACE WATER RADIONUCLIDES - JEE-0123-91

The purpose of this letter is to document the decision to terminate further bench-scale radionuclide treatability testing in support of the Interim Measure/Interim Remedial Action Plan (IM/IRAP) for South Walnut Creek surface water. This includes only the portion of the South Walnut Creek Treatability Study dealing with radionuclides. It does not include any of the treatability testing associated with Woman Creek.

The reasons for terminating these tests are as follows:

- There are only very low levels of radionuclides present in the surface water locations to be used in the treatability testing. The current levels are near or below the ARARs.
- Samples taken from the Walnut Creek sources in Fall of 1990 were too low in radionuclides to warrant the conducting of treatability studies, so such testing was deferred until Spring 1991.
- Samples taken in Spring of 1991 were again so low in radionuclides that little or nothing could be learned from bench scale tests. It was then decided to proceed with the design of the radionuclides removal portion of the IRA without the input of such tests.
- Real time testing of alternative technologies could potentially be performed on a side stream in the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment unit if the utilized technologies fail to meet performance criteria.

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The termination of further bench-scale testing has been discussed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Health (CDH), and verbal concurrence was given at a meeting held on April 29, 1991, between the above regulatory agencies, DOE/RFO, and EG&G Rocky Flats.

The laboratory portion of bench-scale tests for the removal of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) by granular activated carbon and coagulation/precipitation/filtration for suspended solids has been completed. With the deletion of the above-referenced radionuclides removal testing, the final report for South Walnut Creek bench-scale treatability testing will be prepared to include only the two organics removal technologies.

EG&G Rocky Flats requests that DOE/RFO transmit this documentation to EPA and CDH. If additional information is requested, please contact C. D. Cowdery at extension 5944 or G. M. Anderson at extension 5747 of Remediation Programs.

J. E. Evered, Director

Environmental Management EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

CDC.dmf

Orig. and 3 cc - R. M. Nelson, Jr.

cc:

S. R. Grace - DOE, RFO